

Ujima Village Chronology

- **1920s – 1960s** – Athens Tank Farm was operated by General Petroleum Corporation.
- **November 4, 1972** – Ujima Village housing complex is dedicated. The buildings were constructed with financing from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- **1995** – The Los Angeles County Housing Authority (Housing Authority) purchased Ujima Village from HUD for \$1.00.
- **February 2004** – The poor workmanship of the original construction of Ujima Village led to deterioration of the units over time. Thus, the Housing Authority issues a Request for Statement of Qualifications to solicit developers to purchase, rehabilitate and operate the Ujima Village site. Due diligence was undertaken by the selected developer, which later backed out of the proposed transaction, identifying gasoline and crude oil in the soil, soil gas and groundwater below Ujima Village. **Thereafter, the Housing Authority commissioned an additional investigation to ensure that the contamination at Ujima Village was not impacting the quality of the indoor air within the residential units. The testing was sent to the County's Department of Health Services – Environmental Division for review.**
- **January 2007** - The County's Department of Health Services – Environmental Division concluded that the results did not provide the basis for any findings about adverse effects on human health.
- **April 2007** – The Housing Authority notified the Los Angeles Regional Water Board (Water Board) and provided them with all environmental documentation.
- **November 14, 2007** – The Water Board issues an order to ExxonMobil and the Housing Authority to undertake a thorough environmental investigation of the former tank farm. Included in their order, the Water Board required, upon completion of the site characterization, preparation of a **site-specific human health risk assessment report for the Ujima Village Site**. The Regional Board noted that since it did not have a toxicologist on staff, that Exxon seek assistance from the office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to fully evaluate the human health risk. (A copy of the order can be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/regulators/deliverable_documents/7756912052/CWC%2013267&13304%2011-14-2007.pdf)
- **April 14, 2008** – The Water Board conducts a community meeting at Enterprise Park to inform residents about the status of the investigation.

- **May 2008** – The Water Board issues a fact sheet apprising residents about their investigation. (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/community_involvement/9278577506/Fact%20Sheet%20-%20Former%20ATF07-21-2008.pdf)
- **January 30, 2009** – Exxon submits its first Human Health Risk Assessment. (The report can be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/uploads/geo_report/5607323765/SLT4L3741812.PDF)
- **March 18, 2009** – The Water Board, ExxonMobil, and County representatives took part in a community outreach meeting with Ms. Lillian Mobley's Ujima Village Taskforce.
- **March 28, 2009**– The Water Board, ExxonMobil, and County representatives took part in a community outreach meeting organized by the Friends and Neighbors Community Club.
- **April 14, 2009** – Los Angeles County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners declares Ujima Village Housing Development blighted; approves a Relocation Plan to help remaining tenants secure replacement housing; and instructs the Housing Authority to initiate environmental review process for disposition of the site. As part of the proceedings, **Supervisor Ridley-Thomas introduces a motion to prevent the Housing Authority from initiating eviction proceedings. Given the lack of nearby open space, the motion also encourages that the site of Ujima Village be considered for open space in the future.**
- **April 2009 – August 2010** – **Supervisor Ridley-Thomas personally meets with remaining residents at Ujima Village to facilitate relocation efforts.**
- **June 5, 2009** – June 5, 2008 - HUD distributed a letter to Ujima Village residents informing them that a voluntary relocation effort would commence.
- **June 9, 2009** - The Water Board, ExxonMobil and County representatives took part in a second community outreach meeting with Ms. Lillian Mobley's Ujima Village Taskforce. During this meeting the Taskforce raised several health-related concerns.
- **June 27, 2009** - **Supervisor Ridley-Thomas attends the Friends and Neighborhoods Community meeting and discusses the investigation with residents.**
- **June 30, 2009** – The Water Board hosts a second community meeting. **Dr. Cyrus Rangan, Toxic Epidemiologist for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health participates in the meeting and offers concerned stakeholders the opportunity to consult him and their doctor if they have any health concerns. None are reported.**

- **October 23, 2009** - The Board of Supervisors received notice that 450+ claims had been filed by Anderson, Kill, Wood and Bender on behalf of current and former residents of Ujima Village. Filed in the Los Angeles County Superior Court. The plaintiffs alleged that contamination at the 300-unit complex built on a former oil tank storage site caused cancer, leukemia, miscarriages, respiratory distress, chronic infections, asthma, anemia and cognitive and neurological issues. They are demanding unspecified damages to compensate for back rent, injuries, medical costs and what they contend are wrongful deaths.
- **November 16, 2009** - HUD approved "...the [future] use of the [Ujima Village] property as open space and for recreational use."
- **April 9, 2010** – A complaint is filed against County of Los Angeles; Socony Mobile Oil Company, Inc.; So. Cent. Improvement Action Council, Inc.; Ujima Community Development Corporation; Ujima Housing Corporation; Ferguson & Shannon Development Company; Exxon Mobile Corporation; Exxon; Earth Technologies Corp.; Braewood Development Corp.; Boise Cascade Development Corp.; Bowatt Properties, Inc.; Bowatt Corp.; Associated Financial Corp.; AECOM Technology Corp.; AECOM Technical Services, Inc.; Alpha Property Management.
- **July 27, 2010** – The First Amended Complaint is filed.
- **July 30, 2010** – Exxon submits its second Human Health Risk Assessment. (The report can be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/uploads/geo_report/4479768157/SLT4L3741812.PDF)
- **August 5, 2010** – Ujima Village became a fully vacant property after all residents are relocated.
- **September 2010** - The Water Board issues a second fact sheet apprising residents about their investigation (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/community_involvement/5793027579/Athens%20FS2%20FINAL.doc)
- **September 1, 2010** - Exxon submits a revised Human Health Risk Assessment. (The report can be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/uploads/geo_report/8979379236/SLT4L3741812.PDF)
- **September 22, 2010** – The Department of Toxics and Substance Control (DTSC) reviews the Human Health Risk Assessment. (Their review can be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/uploads/geo_report/5607323765/SLT4L3741812.PDF)

- **September 23, 2010** – The County of Los Angeles provides comments to the Human Health Risk Assessment. (Their review can be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/uploads/geo_report/5607323765/SLT4L3741812.PDF)
- **November 1, 2010** – Various Water Board and DTSC representatives meet with the Black Health Task Force. Dr. Chawn Y Jeng, Staff Toxicologist, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) provides a report on the Human Health Risk Assessment.
- **November 29, 2010** – DOE amendment to complaint adding the County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission and the County of Los Angeles Housing Authority.
- **January 10, 2011** – The court orders that “Plaintiffs’ counsel shall make Plaintiffs’ medical records in the possession of Plaintiffs’ counsel available for Defendants’ inspection and copying . . .” Plaintiffs do not comply with this court order.
- **February 9, 2011** – The Second Amended Complaint filed.
- **February 11, 2011** – Exxon submits a revised Human Health Risk Assessment, in response to DTSC’s comments. (The report back be found at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/uploads/geo_report/4479768157/SLT4L3741812.PDF)
- **April 29, 2011** – DOE amendment to complaint adding – Mark Teodo; Barker Management, Inc.; LRS Enterprises, Inc. (f/ka Barker Mangement, Inc.); Robert M. Poll; James L. Unmack, P.E., CIH, CSP
- **May 11, 2011** - The Water Board conducts a community meeting at Enterprise Park to inform residents about the status of the investigation. As part of the meeting, Dr. Chawn Y Jeng, Staff Toxicologist, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) provides a report on the Human Health Risk Assessment.
- **June 10, 2011** – Association of Attorney – Strategic Counsel PLC
- **June 23, 2011** – Per request of the County’s counsel, the court approves the use of a plaintiffs’ questionnaires to obtain information regarding the plaintiffs injuries and medical histories. 150 questionnaires due on September 21, 2011. 100 questionnaires due every 75 days thereafter until all plaintiffs have responded. Batches of questionnaires are expected on December 5, 2011; February 20, 2012; May 7, 2012; July 23, 2012; October 8, 2012; December 24, 2012; March 11, 2013; May 28, 2013; and August 12, 2013.
- **September 21, 2011** – Questionnaires for 150 plaintiffs are received by County’s counsel.

- **October 2011** – The Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas identifies a suitable location to relocate the Honey's Little Day Care facility, and informed the Day Care Center operator and Exxon accordingly. Exxon begins their due diligence of the site.
- **November 7, 2011** – $\frac{3}{4}$ of 900+ plaintiffs have not provided any medical information or description of their specific alleged injuries.
- **December 5, 2011** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **February 20, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **Spring 2012** – The Housing Authority plans to begin asbestos and lead abatement, followed by the demolition of Ujima Village.
- **May 7, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **July 23, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **October 8, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **December 24, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **March 11, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **May 28, 2012** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.
- **August 12, 2013** – Questionnaires for next 100 plaintiffs due.